

Whispering Lake Grove ADF



Samhain
October 28, 2007
6:00 PM

PREPARATION

GROVE ATTUNEMENT (Grollwynn)

Closing your eyes, take a few deep cleansing breaths.

Breathing in through your nose and out through your mouth.

In through your nose and out through your mouth.

As you breathe, lay aside the worries, troubles and woes of the mundane world. *(pause 4 count)*

We now stand between Earth and Sky

Feel your feet firmly resting upon the Earth

Know that below us flows the primal waters

Cold, dark and chaotic; filled with the potential of all life.

Allow the primal waters to enter your being.

Feel the coolness of the waters as they pool within your belly, within your heart and finally, within your head. *(pause 8 count)*

Reaching high into the sky above

Feel the illuminating radiance of the Heavens

Know that above us burns the primal fires

Warm, light and ordered; filled with the spark of all life.

Allow the primal fire to enter your being.

Feel the warmth of the fires as they illuminate your mind, your heart and finally your spirit. *(pause 8 count)*

Now join your hands, your hearts and your minds as one people.

(All participants join hands)

Feel the primal powers of Earth and Sky as they surge through you, lending strength and energy to your being. *(pause 8 count)*

As we open our eyes, know that we assemble as one folk to worship with a common purpose.

All:

May our worship be true.

May our actions be just.

May our love be pure.

Blessings, honor and worship to the Holy Ones.

Honoring Our Grove Patron (Isaura)

Rider of the Maned Waves...

Protect us from the storms.

Guardian of the Threshold...

Guide us from all harm.

Magician of the Shoreline...

Bless us with your might.

Mist Weaver,

May you walk with us this night!

A member of Whispering Lake Grove will prepare a special offering for the Grove Patron and give the offering at this time.

An offering is made to Manannan.

Manannan, accept our offering!

All: Manannan, be welcome among us!

PROCESSION (All in song)

In song (Carrion)

It's The Blood of the Ancients

That Runs Through Our Veins

And The Forms Pass

But The Circle of Life Remains

by Ellen Klaver & Charlie Murphy

Repeat until all participants have entered the ritual space.

OPENING PRAYERS

(Carrion)

Musical Signal- *A drum beats 9 times.*

Honoring the Earth Mother and Sky Father

(Grollwynn) (Isaura)

Great Earth Mother and Sky Father,

Through your sacred union springs forth all life.

Mother and Father of all that was, of all that is and all that will be.

We come before you in love and respect and we ask that you uphold and bless our gathering!

(Grollwynn) (Isaura) *An offering of white bread (1 whole round loaf) and clarified butter is made to the Earth Mother and Sky Father.*

Earth Mother and Sky Father, accept our offering!

All: Earth Mother and Sky Father, be welcome among us!

Invocation for Bardic Inspiration

Bardic Inspiration (Carrion)

Heralds of the Hero's Hall

Skalds of the Saga's Stage

Bards of the Boldest and Brave

Gift us with your grace.

Pour down your eloquence

Insight our words

Inspire our songs

Light the fire in the head!

An offering of honey is made.

Divine Ones, accept our offering!

All: Divine Ones, be welcome among us!

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Purpose of the Ritual (Grollwynn)

Tonight we gather between the Earth and Sky.
To worship and honor the Kindred as one people.
To sing their praise and make our sacrifice.
As we seek their blessings in return.

We gather this night in celebration of the turning wheel.
Enjoying the final fruits of the harvest.
Tonight we celebrate life, death and rebirth,
As we remember those who have walked before us.

We gather this night at the crossroads.
In celebration of the Feast of Samhain.
Enjoying the company of friends and family.
As we remembering the ways of old.
While we welcome the new year before us.

Historical Precedent (Raven)

“Our Ancestors Walk Among Us”

May all who gather this eve be welcome among us!

CONSECRATION OF SPACE & PARTICIPANTS

Outdwellers (at the Southern fire the Sacrificer lays a token for the Outdwellers) (Carrion)

Beings of chaos and discord!
Hoards, whose minds know not rest and whose spirits know not peace.
To all those whose screams and cries, harmonize not with our songs and praise.
Know that this time and place we claim as ours!
You may have held it in the past, you may hold it in the future,

but for now,

Let it be known that it is OURS!

We have given to you all that we intend to give.
May order reign and chaos trouble not our gathering!

Purification of Participants & Space

The aspersion bowl is filled by Grollwynn, from the Well and the censor is kindled from the Fire by Isaura. Ritual participants are cleansed with water from the well and purified with smoke from the censor. After the participants are cleansed and purified the Nemeton is cleansed and purified as the following power building chant is led by Raven.

*With the powers to create and destroy.
And the strength to cleanse and purify.*

When all participants have been purified Raven will step forward saying:

(Raven Mann)

Through the union of fire and water,
Our Nemeton is made whole and holy!
Once more we have met the threat of chaos with order and laid claim to this place. We have made sacred this space that we may worship and honor the Kindred as one people.

THE SACRED CENTER

Affirmation of Unity

(Grollwynn) Let us now raise our voice as one people.

In Song

Deep Peace (Author Unknown)

Deep peace of the flowing air to you

Deep peace of the sacred flame

Deep peace of the running wave to you

Deep peace of the quiet earth

May peace, may peace, may peace fill your soul

Let peace, let peace, let peace make you whole.

Repeat chant 3 times

Establishing Sacred Time (Carrion)

In the beginning and so too in the end; there was but the fires of the Sky and the waters of the Earth and between them a vast emptiness.

Now, within the vast emptiness the illuminating power of the heavens and the creative potential of the Earth converged. The fires of the Sky ignited the waters of the Earth and new life began to stir.

Through the union of fire and water came forth the worlds, the realms and the Mighty Kindred., nine holy things which would create all others.

All in song (Grollwynn & Carrion)

Fire, Well & Tree (chant)

Fire, bright Fire

Gate to the Shining Ones (Grollwynn & Carrion)

Fire, bright Fire

Our passage to the Sky (Grollwynn & Carrion)

Fire, bright Fire

Warmth of our Community (Grollwynn & Carrion)

Spark of Life (Grollwynn & Carrion)

We honor you now

Incense is offered to the fire. (Raven)

Well, deep Well

Gate to the Underworld (Grollwynn & Carrion)

Well, deep Well

Our passage to the Sea (Grollwynn & Carrion)

Well, deep Well

Wisdom of the Ancestors (Grollwynn & Carrion)

Waters of Life (Grollwynn & Carrion)

We honor you now

Hazel nuts are offered into the well. (Raven)

Tree, great Tree

Gate that reaches everywhere (Grollwynn & Carrion)

Tree, great Tree

With you we share the Land (Grollwynn & Carrion)

Tree, great Tree

Our passage to the Otherworld (Grollwynn & Carrion)

Source of Life (Grollwynn & Carrion)

We honor you now.

The bile is asperged with water from the well and censed with incense. (Raven)

Words & music by Pandora

COMPLETING THE COSMOLOGY

To Land, Sea & Sky (Raven)

The waters support and surround us.

The land extends about us.

The sky stretches above us.

And at the center burns a living flame.

Let us pray with a good fire.

May all the Kindred bless us.

May our worship be true.

May our actions be just.

May our love be pure.

Blessings and honor and worship to the holy ones.

Land, Sea & Sky Text by Ceisiwr Serith

OPENING THE GATES

(Raven)

Manannan MacLir, it is your might and magic that wards the threshold.

Grey Rider of Aonbarr, we ask for your protection as we stand at

the center of all worlds this night.

Mighty Lord of the Crossroads, as the world of the living and that of the spirit converge upon this place may you part the mist before us.

(Raven) *Irish whiskey is offered to Manannan.*

Manannan MacLir, Mist Weaver, accept our offering!

All: Manannan, be welcome among us!

(Carrion) Let us raise our voices in song to the Gatekeeper!

All in song

Gatekeeper open the portals,

Between the Gods and mortals,

Power freely flows, as our magic grows!

Repeat chant three times

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(Raven, Carrion)

Manannan, merge now your magick with ours!

(Raven)

See the flame leaping forth from the fire.

(Carrion)

See the mist arising from the well,

(Raven, Carrion)

Flame and mist converging upon the tree.

Forming a meeting place between the realms

(Raven) *Striking a sigil or triskel over the fire*

Let the fire burning towards the heavens open as a gate that we may follow the way to the Shining Ones.

(Carrion) *Striking a sigil or triskel over the well*

Let the well whose depths reach the Underworld open as a gate that we may follow the way to the Mighty Dead.

(Raven, Carrion) *Striking a sigil or triskel upon the tree*

Let the tree, pathway between Earth & Sky, be open to us.

By the land before us!

(Carrion)

By the seas about us!

(Raven)

By the sky above us!

(Raven, Carrion)

Let the Gates Be Open!

KINDRED OFFERINGS

(Grollwynn)

Now that the world of the living and that of the spirit are one, we call out from the crossroads to the Mighty Kindred!

(Isaura)

Allies of the Middle Realm!

Bright and shining messengers to the Otherworld

Elves, Sprites, and Faeries of the Hollow Hills

Protectors of this sacred ground.

Noble Ones, join us as we honor our Ancestors this night!

Bird Seed is offered. (Isaura)

All: Noble Ones, be welcome among us!

(Grollwynn)

Eldest and Brightest of the Realm Above!

Bringers of life, death and rebirth.

Deities of Might, of Magic and those of the Mist.

Blessed Children of Danu!

Shining Ones, join us as we honor our Ancestors this night!

Clarified butter is offered. (Grollwynn)

All: Shining Ones be welcome among us!

HONORING THE BEINGS OF THE OCCASION

Restless Dead (Carrion)

Alone within the veil you wander,
Between the border of this world and the next,
But belonging to neither.

Darkness, isolation and loneliness fill your days.
Between the world of the living and that of the dead,
But unable to join either.

Restless Ones of blood and spirit,
Those whose hearts and minds unite with our own.
We remember you this night and welcome you to draw near..

Restless Ones, accept our offering!

Incense is offered.

Restless Ones, we honor you!

Carrion will light candles and place flowers on the shrine for the Restless Dead.

Honored Dead (Grollwynn)

Immortal are the deeds of the boldest and brave,
Their timeless tales passed throughout the ages,
Within the memory of the living.

Glory, honor and courage fills their lives.
Inspiring greatness for generations,
Through legends larger than life.

Ancestors of Spirit,
Those whose deeds inspire our hearts and minds.
We honor you this night!

Honored Dead, accept our offering!

Cider and Apples are offered.

Honored Dead, be welcome among us!

Participants are given an opportunity to bring an item to the shrine of the Honored Dead.

Beloved Dead (Raven)

Our hearts beat because you have lived...
Your success and failure our greatest teachers,
Imparting the wisdom of the ages.

Through your strength and perseverance we are...
Within our blood flows your memory...
Recording of all who have come before...

Ancestors of flesh and bone
Those whose wisdom flows within our veins.
We honor you this night!

Beloved Dead, accept our offering!

Cider and Apples are offered.

Beloved Dead, be welcome among us!

Participants are given an opportunity to bring an item to the shrine of the Beloved Dead.

PRAISE OFFERINGS

Group Praise Offering

(Raven) Children of Earth and Sky, turn your attention to the west.
Behold! Your Ancestors approach. It is good and proper that we
make them welcome.

(Carrion) We commune with and give honor to the Mighty Dead,
who have traveled far to be with us this eve.

(Grollwynn) We commune with and give honor to both Ancestors
of blood and Ancestors of spirit.

(Isaura) We commune with and give honor to those friends and

family, who have passed from this world to the next, during this past year.

(Carrion) Join me as we raise our glasses to honor the Restless Ones, those known and unknown, who wish to share in our celebration but must remain within the veil this night unable to join us at our hearths fire.

All participants raise their glasses in honor of the Restless Dead.

(Grollwynn) Join me as we raise our glasses and praise the Honored Dead.

A round of praise will be given to the honored dead by all who have assembled.

(Raven) Join me as we raise our glasses and praise our Beloved Dead.

A round of praise will be given to the Beloved Dead by all who have assembled.

In Song (Carrion)

Let us raise our voice in song in honor of our ancestors.

Ancestors calling to me

Powers ancient and strong

Elder, sage, wise ones be

We've known you all along.

Repeat 3 X 3times.

PRAYER OF SACRIFICE

(Raven)

Through our praise, love and sacrifice;

We honor our Ancestors, as they walk among us.

Through communication with the Otherworld;

We receive their guidance, inspiration and insight.

Tonight we call out from the crossroads to our honored guests!

As we prepare to make our final sacrifice.

The final sacrifice is prepared. (Carrion)

It is in love, honor and respect that we have offered hospitality to our Ancestors this night.

We have sung their praise; made our sacrifice.

It is our hope that our words and sacrifice have conveyed our love.

We call once more through the Gates and deep within the Otherworld that all shall know of our devotion.

Mighty Ones, we honor you.

The final sacrifice is made.

Ancestors, accept our sacrifice!

All: Ancestors, accept our sacrifice!

THE OMEN

(Raven)

The Omen is taken by drawing three Ogham. The seer then interprets the omen asking if our sacrifice and offerings have been accepted. The Seer then leads the company to contemplate the blessings/warnings of the omen from the Beings of the Occasion. While the omen is being taken Carrion will lead all present in the following chant.

(Carrion)

Let us raise our voices in song as the Beings of this Occasion reveal their will.

In song

Look into the well of memory

Look into the well of time

Look into the well of ages

I am yours, You are mine.

Listen to the ancient stories

Listen to the ancient songs

Listen to the ancient wisdom

I go on, You go on

*Deep within your hearts are beating
Deep within are hearts we know
Our descendants will remember
Our love flows, Your love flows.
(Words & music by Emerald)*

CALLING FOR THE BLESSING (Raven) (Carrion)

*Two pitchers will be filled and sat in the midst of the hallows.
The following words will be spoken over the pitchers.*

(Raven) As in the ways of old we have given our gifts freely
and as in the ways of old a gift is given unto us in return.

(Carrion) We will drink deep of the Cup of Inspiration. May the
blessings of health, wealth and wisdom be ours.

(Raven) Ancestors your blessings upon us!

All: Ancestors your blessings upon us!

(Carrion) We gather with you between Earth and Sky. We are
proud to call ourselves your people.

(Raven) Once again, Ancestors your blessings upon us!

All: Ancestors your blessings upon us!

(Carrion) We have brought our offerings. We have made
sacrifice.

(Raven) One last time, Ancestors your blessings upon us!

All: Ancestors your blessings upon us!

(Grollwynn) *The pitchers are lifted saluting the fire, well and
tree.*

HALLOWING OF THE WATERS

(Grollwynn) Behold the Waters of Life!

(Raven) Mighty Ones hear and bless us.

(Carrion) Ancestors, Restless, Honored and Beloved, hallow
these waters of life.

(Grollwynn) *lifts the pitchers before the participants.*

(Grollwynn) Behold the Waters of Life!

All: Behold the Waters of Life!

AFFIRMATION OF THE BLESSINGS

(Grollwynn) Now Good folk, do you wish to receive the blessings
of our honored guests? _____. Then we shall drink deep
the blessings of the Mighty Dead!

*The Waters are passed (Grollwynn & Isaura) and all participants
share the waters. As the waters are passed the following song is
sung by all participants.*

(Carrion) As we receive the blessing of the Mighty Dead let us
raise our voices in song.

In song

Back to the River, back to the Sea

Back to the Ocean, home to thee

Back through my blood, back through my veins.

Back to my heartbeat, all the same.

(By Abbi Spinner)

Repeat until the horns have been passed to all participants.

THANKING THE BEINGS

(Raven)

Beloved Dead, Ancestors of Blood. Those who inspire and
guide us in our lives. Beloved Dead we thank you for the
wisdom you have shared with us. **(a final token is offered)**
May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the
hearth's fire.

All: Beloved Dead, we thank you!

(Grollwynn)

Honored Dead, Ancestors of Spirit. Those who inspire and

guide us in our lives. Honored Dead we thank you for the wisdom you have shared with us. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Honored Dead, we thank you!

(Carrion) Restless Ones of blood and spirit. Those who strive to find their way home. Restless Ones we thank you for the wisdom you have shared with us. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Restless Dead, we thank you!

(Grollwynn) Shining Ones, Eldest and Brightest. May you continue to guide and bless us as we walk this path. Shining Ones, known and unknown, we thank you for your blessings and guidance this eve. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Shining Ones, we thank you!

(Isaura) Noble Spirits of land, sea and sky. Companions who aid and guide us in our journey. Noble Spirits, we thank you for sharing your knowledge and protection. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Noble Spirits, we thank you!

(Isaura) Divine Ones, we thank you for your blessings of inspiration and eloquence. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Divine Ones, we thank you!

CLOSING THE GATES

(Raven) Manannan MacLir, Weaver of Gray Mists; we thank you

for your protection and guidance as we have walked between the worlds this night. **(A final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire

All: Manannan, we thank you!

(Raven)

Manannan Mac Lir, Great Guardian of the Threshold, we now ask that you close the gates, warding the way between the worlds once more.

(Raven)

Let the fire burning towards the heavens once more become but flames.

(Carrion)

Let the well whose depths reach the Underworld once more become but water.

(Raven) (Carrion)

Let the tree, pathway between Earth & Sky, become but wood. By the land before us!

(Raven) (Carrion)

By the seas about us!

(Raven) (Carrion)

By the sky above us!

(Raven Mann)(Carrion Mann)

Let the Gates be closed!

THANKING THE EARTH MOTHER AND SKY FATHER

(Grollwynn) Illuminating One of the Sky, may you continue to show us the way to courage and right. Bright Father of the Clear Sky, we thank you for the strength and healing warmth you have given us. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Sky Father, we thank you!

(Isaura) Ancient One of Ever Changing Beauty, may you continue to renew and sustain us. Primal Mother of the Tuatha, we thank you for all life. **(a final token is offered)** May there be peace between us until we meet once again by the hearth's fire.

All: Earth Mother, we thank you!

(Raven) We now return all that has gone unused to the Earth and the Sky, may they continue to support, surround and sustain us. *All offerings that remain are burnt in the fire or scattered upon the Earth.*

STATEMENT OF ENDING

Unmerging, Regrounding & Recentering: Meditation

(Grollwynn) Children of Earth and Sky, join me once more as we close our eyes; breathing deeply in through your nose and out through your mouth **(pause for a 2 count)**.

As the mighty oak is part of the forest, we are all part of the great circle of life. Remember the blessings we have received together this night **(pause)**.

As we stand between Earth and Sky

Once more feel your feet firmly resting upon the Earth

Know that below us flows the primal waters.

Once more feel the coolness of the waters that have pooled within your belly, within your heart and finally, within your head. **(pause 4 count)**

Reaching high into the sky above

Feel the illuminating radiance of the Heavens.

Know that above us burns the primal fires.

Once more feel the warmth of the fires that have illuminated your mind, your heart and finally your spirit. **(pause 4 count)**

Feel the primal powers of Earth and Sky surging through you, as they have given strength and energy to your being. **(pause 4 count)**

Keep of this power what you need, sending what remains forth

from our beings into the Great Lake **(pause)**. See this energy heal and protect her as we conclude our worship.

May all that is be what was, that it may be again!

(Carrion)

Musical Signal- *A drum beats 9 times.*

All: We will keep the faith until the sky falls upon us and crushes us; until the earth opens and swallows us; until the seas arises and overwhelm us.

Recessional Song

(Carrion) Once more may we now raise our voices in song as we leave our Nemeton.

It's The Blood of the Ancients

That Runs Through Our Veins

And The Forms Pass

But The Circle of Life Remains

by Ellen Klaver & Charlie Murphy

Special Thanks To:

All who attended, participated and shared in our Samhain celebration.

Ellen Klaver & Charlie Murphy for the chant the Blood of the Ancients.

Pandora for the chant

Fire, Bright Fire

Liafal for the chant

The Gatekeeper Chant

Ceisiwr Serith for the text for recreating the cosmos.

Abbi Spinner for the chant Back to the River

Emerald of Sassafras Grove ADF for the chant The Well of Memory

The unknown author of Deep Peace.

Whispering Lake Grove, ADF

Samhain Ritual

2007

Ritual text written by

(Unless otherwise credited)

Raven & Carrion Mann

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